**Performance in Economic Field**

2763. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of its performance in economic field during last one year;

(b) if so, how far this has been able to close the gap between people's aspirations and Government's performance;

(c) what have been the failures; and

(d) how Government propose to address these failures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (d) The Government periodically assesses the progress in the economic field by monitoring the movement of macro variables and related parameters. These assessments are documented in the Economic Survey published annually by the Government. According to the latest Economic Survey pertaining to 1998-99, the economy recovered to an estimated GDP growth of 5.8 per cent in 1998-99 from 5 per cent in the previous year.

The recovery in 1998-99 was led by the rebound in agriculture and allied sectors which is likely to grow by 5.3 per cent. In 1998-99, the growth of GDP from manufacturing is 5.7 per cent, electricity gas and water supply is 6.3 per cent, trade hotels transport and communications is 6.8 per cent.

The inflation rate, which peaked at 8.8 per cent in late September, 1998 has dropped steeply from December to below 5 per cent in January. Average inflation for the whole of 1998-99 will, however, be higher than the 4.8 per cent registered in 1997-98.

**Poverty Line in Assam**

2764. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people in Assam who have been brought above the poverty line by granting Central assistance, district-wise;

(b) the number of people who are still below the poverty line in the State as on 31st March, 1999, district-wise; and

(c) the allocation of funds made for this purpose during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Central Plan Assistance to Assam has increased from Rs. 980.99 crores in 1995-96 to Rs. 1447.33 crores in 1998-99. Nevertheless, the poverty ratio in rural areas of Assam as per the last assessment (district-wise information is not available), rose from 42.60% in 1983 to 45.01% in 1993-94. The per capita State Domestic Product (SDP), at constant prices (1980-81), has risen from Rs. 1575 in 1991-92 to Rs. 1628 (provisional) in 1996-97.

(c) The indicative Ninth Plan allocation for Assam is Rs. 8983.93 crores. However, under the poverty alleviation programmes viz., Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), allocations are made annually. The allocations for poverty alleviation programmes (comprising the Centre and

*the State) during the first two years of the Ninth Plan were as follows:—*

| | (Rs. in crores) |
|---|---|
| 1997-98 | 236.58 |
| 1998-99 | 386.00 |

**Project Specific Assistance under Central and State Plans**

2765. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central and the State Plans are proposed to be project specific assistance only; and

(b) what other steps taken to prevent the diversion of Plan funds into non-plan expenditure to make planning process more successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Outlays for certain important schemes/projects, including externally-aided projects, are earmarked. Moreover, Planning Commission monitors the implementation of Plans periodically to ensure that Plan funds are spent in line with Plan priorities.

**Growth and Generation of Employment**

2766. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been estimated by the Planning Commission that 2.8 per cent annual growth is essential for full employment by 2007 A.D.;

(b) if so, how does Government propose to ensure 2.8 per cent annual increase in employment opportunities;

(c) whether an effort will be made to identify sectors which can generate further employment; and

(d) if so, the details of sectors thus identified by the Planning Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) As per estimate made in the Ninth Plan, an annual growth in employment opportunities of 2.8% in the post Ninth Plan period is required to achieve full employment by 2007 AD.

(b) The Ninth Plan aims at GDP growth of 6.5% per annum during the Plan Period (1997-2002) and 7.7% per annum in the post Ninth Plan period, which is consistent with a 2.8% growth of employment during the period 2002-2007.

(c) and (d) Growth of productive employment will be achieved through faster growth of employment-intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities such as agriculture, agro and rural industries, rural infrastructure, small and decentralised manufacturing sector, urban informal sector, trade, transport, construction and services.

**बृहत परियोजनाओं को पूरा किया जाना**

2767. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या इस समय सरकारी क्षेत्र की 50 प्रतिशत बृहत् परियोजनाएं अपने निर्धारित समय से पीछे चल रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी परियोजनाओं के क्या नाम हैं और क्या सरकार ने इनके तथ्यात्मक कारणों का पता लगाया है;